

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 SSO-00 FEA-01

ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01

ERDA-05 FMC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /122 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1410

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1805

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS JA

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN SALMON DISCUSSIONS, MARCH 12-14, GENEVA

FROM USDEL LOS

PASS ASSISTANT SECRETARY RAY, OES; ROBERT WHITE,
ADMINISTRATOR, NOAA, DOC; ROBERT SCHONING, DIRECTOR
NMFS, NOAA.

1. USG AND GOJ REACHED AGREEMENT ON MARCH 14 AFT-
ER THREE DAYS OF DISCUSSION ON MEASURES IN 1975
JAPAN WILL IMPLEMENT TO REDUCE INTERCEPTION BY JAP-
ANESE MOTHERSHIP FISHERY OF SOCKEYE (RED) SALMON
OF BRISTOL BAY ORIGIN. MEASURES AGREED
UPON ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT PROTECTION
TO SALMON DESTINED TO SPAWN IN BRISTOL BAY SYSTEMS
IN 1975, SPECIFICALLY, JAPAN AGREED TO ESTABLISH-
MENT OF TWO LARGE CLOSED AREAS IN WATERS OF
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CENTRAL ALEUTIANS DESCRIBED BELOW:

(A) FROM ALEUTIAN ISLANDS SOUTH TO 48 DEGREES

NORTH AND BETWEEN LONGITUDE 175 DEGREES WEST (PROVISIONAL OBSTENTION LINE) AND 177 DEGREE 30 MINUTES EAST-- NO FISHING DURING PERIOD MAY 21 (BEGINNING OF JAPANESE MOTHERSHIP FISHERY) TO JUNE 30.

(B) FROM ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NORTH TO 55 DEGREES NORTH AND BETWEEN LONGITUDES 175 DEGREES WEST AND 180 DEGREES -- NO FISHING DURING PERIOD MAY 21-JUNE 25.

2. AREA OF CLOSURES AGREED TO BY JAPAN ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR TO CLOSURES ADOPTED BY JAPAN IN 1974 WITH FOLLOWING THREE MODIFICATIONS;

(A) CLOSED AREA SOUTH OF ALEUTIANS REDUCED IN SIZE BY ONE DEGREE LONGITUDE, FROM 176 DEGREES 30 MINUTES EAST TO 177 DEGREES 30 MINUTES EAST.

(B) CLOSED AREA NORTH OF ALEUTIANS REDUCED IN SIZE BY ONE DEGREE LATITUDE, FROM 56 DEGREES NORTH TO 55 DEGREES NORTH.

(C) CLOSED PERIOD IN AREA NORTH OF ALEUTIANS EXTENDED BY FIVE DAYS, FROM JUNE 20 TO JUNE 25.

3. AREAS OF CLOSURE LIE WEST OF US-CANADA-JAPAN FISHERIES/CONVENTION WATERS AND FALL IN AREA COVERED BY JAPAN-USSR FISHERIES TREATY. ACCORDINGLY, TO CIRCUMVENT LEGAL ISSUE, GOJ WILL PROVIDE CONFIDENTIAL NOTE TO USG AS IT DID IN 1974 STATING THAT JAPANESE FISHING INDUSTRY WILL QUOTE VOLUNTARILY IMPLEMENT MEASURES UNQUOTE AGREED UPON.

4. REDUCTION IN AREA BY ONE DEGREE LONGITUDE SOUTH OF ALEUTIANS WILL PROVIDE JAPANESE FLEET LARGER CORRIDOR TO CONDUCT FISHING OPERATIONS. FURTHER WESTWARDS, BEGINNING AT LONGITUDE 168 DEGREES EAST, USSR HAS IN PAST IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON JAPAN AND IS AGAIN EXPECTED TO IMPOSE THIS YEAR AT MINIMUM SIMILAR IF NOT MORE STRINGENT RESTRICTIONS ON JAPAN. ACCORDINGLY, JAPAN WOULD
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MOT ACCEPT CLOSURE BEYOND 177 DEGREES EAST. ONE-DEGREE REDUCTION IN CLOSED AREA IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE JAPANESE INTERCEPTION OF BRISTOL BAY SALMON. HOWEVER, THIS IS COUNTER-BALANCED BY FIVE-DAY INCREASE IN CLOSED PERIOD NORTH OF ALEUTIANS HAS LITTLE IF ANY EFFECT ON BRISTOL BAY SALMON BUT DOES PROVIDE JAPAN WITH GREATER OPPORTUNITY TO FISH FOR SALMON OF ASIAN ORIGIN, MAINLY CHUM.

5. WITH REGARD TO CONDITION OF STOCKS, JAPAN CLAIMED ON BASIS OF TWO-YEAR STUDY (1973-74) CONDUCTED BY THEIR RESEARCH VESSELS THAT RUN OF SOCK-EYE SALMON EXPECTED TO RETURN AS PARENT FISH TO BRISTOL BAY IN 1975 MUCH LARGER THAN US FORECASTED FIGURE OF 12 MILLION FISH, US VIEW WAS THAT SUCH A SHORT-TERM STUDY IS NOT GOOD SCIENCE AND NOT RELIABLE AND THAT A LONGER TERM PERIOD OF YEARS (5-6) WHICH WOULD INCLUDE FULL LIFE CYCLE OF SALMON SHOULD BE USED IN DETERMINING SIZE OF RUN. JAPAN DID NOT PRESENT ANY ARGUMENTS TO US ANALYSIS SINCE IT IS MOST REASONABLE APPROACH BUT CONTENDED THAT SIZE OF RUN IN THEIR VIEW WOULD LIKELY BE IN MAGNITUDE OF 15-17 MILLION FISH. US INDICATED THAT EVEN IF OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF RUN, SUCH AS NUMBERS PRESENTED BY JAPAN, IS TAKEN, FIGURE OF 15-17 MILLION REPRESENTS A SHARP REDUCTION OF NORMAL CYCLE OF RUN IN PAST YEARS WHICH HAVE AVERAGED 40 MILLION FISH. FURTHER, A RUN OF SUCH A SIZE WOULD STILL FALL FAR SHORT OF ESCAPEMENT REQUIREMENTS TO TWO SYSTEMS, ONE OF WHICH (KVICHAK RIVER) CONSTITUTES BY FAR THE MOST DOMINANT RUN IN BRISTOL BAY.

6. DISCUSSIONS CONDUCTED THROUGHOUT THREE-DAY PERIOD IN CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. ASSESSMENT OF US DELEGATION IS THAT US OBTAINED GOOD BARGAIN.

7. JAPANESE DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY MATSUURA, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, CONFIDENTIAL
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FISHERIES AGENCY. L.M. NAKATSU, OES/OFA, SERVED AS U.S. SPOKESMAN.

8. FOR OES/OFA: NAKATSU ETA DULLES MARCH 17, 2 PM. PAA FLIGHT 107. REQUEST INFORM FAMILY. DALE

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